

## **Emory University Hospital Critical Care Nurse Practitioner (NP/PA) Residency Program: Accreditation Influenced Executive Approval to Expand Existing Training Program**

The Emory University Critical Care Nurse Practitioner (NP/PA) Residency Program was created prior to any established practice transition accreditation and was one of the first to achieve accreditation from the ANCC Practice Transition Accreditation Program™ (PTAP). As a result of its PTAP accreditation, the Emory Critical Care NP/PA Residency Program has experienced an increase in its application pool, executive recognition, and approval to expand by onboarding additional trainees.

“Our health care system is rapidly changing. The nation is suffering from a shortage of physicians across the medical spectrum.

Nurse practitioners can provide value-based, high-quality care when physicians are not readily available,” said Heather Meissen, ACNP-BC, CCRN, FCCM, director of the Critical Care NP/PA Residency Program at Emory University Hospital. “However, to ensure those nurse practitioners deliver high-quality care, we must verify that they are well-trained providers. Orientation is inconsistent across institutions and often lacks structure to transition a student to competent provider. Practice transition programs provide the structure that ensures a successful transition.”

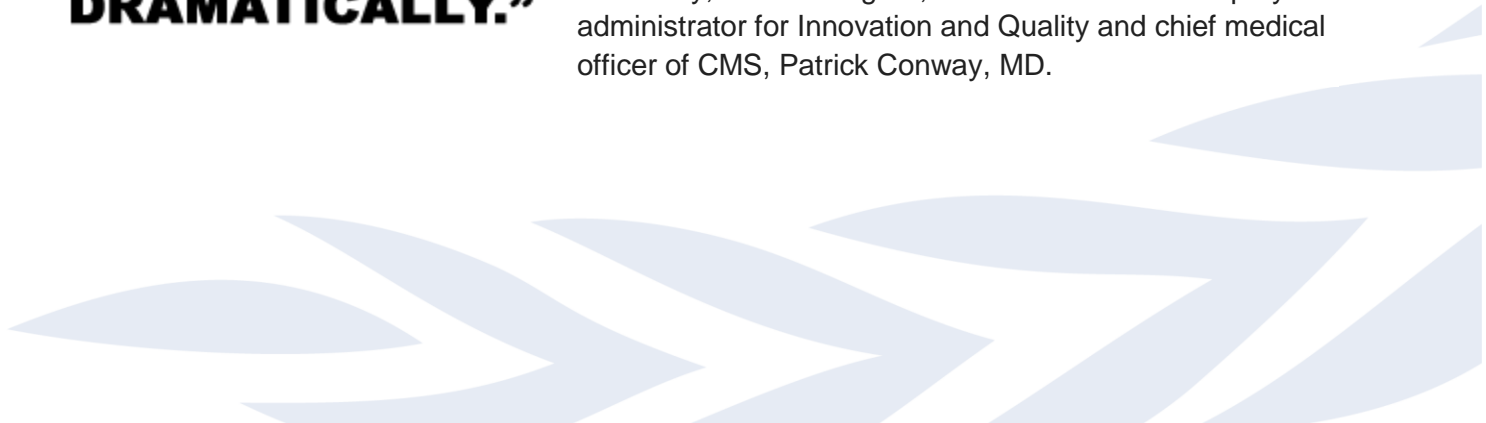
**“OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IS RAPIDLY CHANGING.”**

ANCC is the first nurse credentialing organization to establish accreditation standards for advance practice registered nurses (APRNs). When PTAP was launched, the Emory Critical Care NP Residency Program team saw an opportunity to obtain accreditation from the international leader in nursing excellence.

“Obtaining accreditation from ANCC validates our program as meeting the highest international standards. Candidates recognize an accredited program as a program that delivers the best possible training,” Meissen said.

**“ACCREDITATION HAS IMPACTED OUR PROGRAM DRAMATICALLY.”**

Shortly after receiving accreditation, Meissen received three letters of congratulations and recognition. The first was from Emory Healthcare’s CEO and CNE, John Fox and Susan Grant, respectively. Another letter of recognition was received from the president of Emory University, James Wagner, and a third from the deputy administrator for Innovation and Quality and chief medical officer of CMS, Patrick Conway, MD.



“This immediate response was only because of accreditation, and amplified how important accreditation truly is,” Meissen continued. “Accreditation has impacted our program dramatically. We have seen an increase in our application pool, and the biggest impact is felt by the recent approval from our executives to grow our program by onboarding more trainees.”

Meissen said she is most proud of the increased trainee satisfaction that stems from the program’s PTAP accreditation, something she has learned about thanks to the program’s newly instituted exit interviews.

“Our most important stakeholders are our trainees. Hearing how happy the trainees were with the program has been the most rewarding.”

**For more information about PTAP, visit [nursecredentialing.org/CaseforPTAP](https://nursecredentialing.org/CaseforPTAP).**

### **About Emory Healthcare**

As the largest health care system in Georgia and the only health network in the state that brings together a full range of hospitals, clinics, and local practices, Emory Healthcare is committed to providing patients and families with better, more collaborative care for all their medical needs. The Emory Healthcare Network encompasses teams of providers at our locations across Georgia, including Emory University Hospital, Emory University Hospital Midtown, Emory University Orthopedics & Spine Hospital, Emory Rehabilitation Hospital and the Wesley Woods Center, Emory Saint Joseph’s Hospital and Emory Johns Creek Hospital, Emory Clinic, and the Emory Healthcare Network physicians, ranging from primary to specialty care providers. Through our integrated, collaborative care network, we are dedicated to providing the standard of care that our patients expect and deserve. Visit [emoryhealthcare.org](https://emoryhealthcare.org) for more information.

### **About the ANCC Accreditation Program**

The ANCC Accreditation program recognizes the importance of high-quality continuing nursing education (CNE), skills-based competency, and nurse practice transition programs. Around the world, ANCC-accredited organizations provide nurses with the knowledge and skills to help improve care and patient outcomes. Accreditation by ANCC validates that a nursing residency or fellowship program has been operationalized to meet ANCC standards, regardless of whether the curriculum is developed in-house or purchased from a provider. Use of any course/material/service does not imply eligibility for or successful performance in the submission of credential applications, nor is it a requirement to qualify for accreditation. ANCC does not endorse any products or services.

### **About ANCC**

ANCC is the world’s largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization. ANCC’s internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize health care organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program<sup>®</sup> and the Pathway to Excellence<sup>®</sup> Program; and accredit providers of continuing nursing education, skills competency programs, and transition-to-practice programs. ANCC provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs. ANCC continues to drive nursing excellence, quality care, and improved outcomes globally through innovation, research, and operational positive practice.

ANCC is part of the ANA Enterprise. The ANA Enterprise comprises the American Nurses Association, the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and the American Nurses Foundation.